## CLAIMS:

- 5 What is claimed is:
- A method of generating an XML schema to validate an XML document representing network packet exchanges
  comprising the steps of:

identifying transition states of the network packet exchanges being investigated; and

- generating, based on the transition states, the XML schema.
  - 2. The method of Claim 1 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.

20

- 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein each element is defined.
- 4. The method of Claim 3 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.

25

- 5. The method of Claim 4 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.
- 30 6. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for generating an XML schema to validate an XML

15

document representing network packet exchanges comprising:

code means for identifying transition states of the network packet exchanges to investigate; and

code means for generating, based on the transition states, the XML schema.

- 10 7. The computer program product of Claim 6 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.
  - 8. The computer program product of Claim 7 wherein each element is defined.

9. The computer program product of Claim 3 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.

- 10. The computer program product of Claim 4 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.
- 11. An apparatus for generating an XML schema to validate an XML document representing network packet exchanges comprising:

means for identifying transition states of the network packet exchanges to investigate; and

means for generating, based on the transition states, the XML schema.

30

- 12. The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.
- 13. The apparatus of Claim 12 wherein each element is defined.
  - 14. The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.
- 10 15. The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.
- 16. A computer system for of generating an XML schema to validate an XML document representing network packet exchanges comprising:

at least one memory device to store code data; and

- at least one processor for processing said code data to identify transition states of the network packet exchanges to investigate and to generate, based on the transition states, the XML schema.
- 25 17. The computer system of Claim 16 wherein each transition state is represented by an XML element.
  - 18. The computer system of Claim 16 wherein each element is defined.
  - 19. The computer system of Claim 18 wherein all elements in the schema are in a particular sequence.

20. The computer system of Claim 19 wherein the sequence is the sequence of the transition states of the packet exchanges.

5